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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The General Assembly enacted landmark procurement reforms during the 96th General Assembly aimed at rooting out and curing various abuses within the State's procurement system; and

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WHEREAS, The General Assembly intended to enact substantive procurement reforms that balanced the critical need to reduce fraud, waste, mismanagement, and abuse while maintaining efficiency and efficacy in purchasing goods and services for the State; and

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WHEREAS, Since the enactment of these landmark procurement reforms, members of the business community, university officials and faculty, and others have brought forth issues regarding the new procurement law and its effect on contracting that could unintentionally chill innovation, create costly inefficiencies, and harm businesses, State universities and their top-tier research facilities, and the State; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that a Senate Committee on Procurement is created and charged with the task of studying all aspects of the State's procurement system, including, but

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1 not limited to: reporting of procurement communications,
2 ensuring prudent communications with vendors regarding the
3 execution of contracts, encouraging private enterprises to
4 share expertise and ideas with the State, hearings regarding
5 sole source contracts, and disclosures regarding
6 subcontractors; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be made up of 6 members:
8 3 shall be appointed by the President of the Senate and 3 shall
9 be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall have Co-Chairpersons,
12 one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed
13 by the Minority Leader of the Senate; Co-Chairpersons shall not
14 be of the same caucus and shall serve at the pleasure of the
15 caucus leader making the appointment; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall have all of the powers
17 granted to a standing committee under the Senate Rules; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That meetings of the Committee shall be posted
20 and open to the public in accordance with Senate Rules; and be
21 it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Committee may call upon Constitutional
2 Officers, the Procurement Policy Board, the Executive Ethics
3 Commission, State universities, State agencies, business
4 associations, representatives of public employees, advocates,
5 and any additional agencies or groups as the Committee sees fit
6 in order to hear testimony and gather details and information
7 relating to the purposes of the Committee; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be appointed no later
9 than one week after the adoption of this resolution, and the
10 Committee shall submit a report no later than May 16, 2011 to
11 the President of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the
12 Senate.